

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
AND ZEV YAROSLAVSKY**

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2009**

**Support for Federal Climate Change Legislation**

California United States Senator Barbara Boxer, who chairs the Environment and Public Works Committee, recently announced that her committee will introduce comprehensive energy reform legislation by the end of September.

Climate Change legislation, as previously adopted by the House of Representatives, sets a national renewable electricity standard and creates new energy efficiency programs.

With the previous absence of an effective federal response, local governments such as Los Angeles County (the "County") have taken the lead in combating climate change by investing increasingly scarce resources in a wide range of actions, including providing low-cost financing for energy efficiency and renewable retrofits of existing buildings, setting stringent building efficiency standards, reducing the carbon footprint of

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**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

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County operations, and participating in region-wide climate adaptation and mitigation planning efforts. These activities will not only help the County address climate change, it will also help combat the related problems of air pollution, our national dependence on fossil fuels, and create additional green jobs.

While partnerships with states and the private sector are essential to successful local action, without direct federal support and resources to local governments, the potential for effective clean energy and climate protection strategies will certainly fall short.

**WE THEREFORE MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the Chief Executive Office's Intergovernmental Relations Branch to support the United States Senate's passage of comprehensive climate change legislation and actively advocate that provisions which empower localities to achieve significant energy savings and emissions reductions be included in the final version of Climate Change legislation. Such provisions include direct support for local climate action by allocation of carbon trading allowances to local governments, funding for local public transportation projects, eligibility of offset credits for local governments' efforts that reduce carbon emissions and support for local government adaption planning.

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**WE FURTHER MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Send a five signature letter to Senator Barbara Boxer as the Chair, and Senator James Inhofe as the Ranking Member, of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, to acknowledge Los Angeles County's support for Federal Climate Change Legislation, offer Los Angeles County's support and collaboration in showcasing the efficacy of local government's efforts to promote clean energy and reduce the impacts of climate change, and advocate for the provisions described above.

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